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Legislative Bulletin.....December 2, 2010

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H.Res. 1737- Censure of Representative Charlie Rangel

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Order of Business: The resolution is expected to be considered on Thursday, December 2, 2010, as a privileged resolution debated under the hour rule. It is unclear whether a rumored amendment by the Congressional Black Caucus to reduce the censure to a reprimand will be allowed.

Summary: The resolution states that:

- “Representative Charles B. Rangel of New York be censured;
- “Representative Charles B. Rangel forthwith present himself in the well of the House for the pronouncement of censure;
- “Representative Charles B. Rangel be censured with the public reading of this resolution by the Speaker; and
- “Representative Rangel pay restitution to the appropriate taxing authorities or the U.S. Treasury for any unpaid estimated taxes outlined in Exhibit 066 on income received from his property in the Dominican Republic and provide proof of payment to the Committee.”

Additional Background: Congressman Charlie Rangel (D-NY) was found guilty by the House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct of 11 counts of violating ethics rules on Nov. 16, 2010. The charges include failure to disclose hundreds of thousands of dollars in income and improperly soliciting millions of dollars in donations. For more information on the censure and expulsion process, [click here](#) to review a CRS report on the issue. Go [here](#) for the materials from the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct.

Committee Action: The Committee on Standards of Official Conduct held hearings on November 16-18, 2010, and reported the resolution as an original measure on November 29, 2010.

Administration Position: A Statement of Administration Policy (SAP) is unavailable.

Cost to Taxpayers: None.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government? : No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?
No.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: The resolution contains no earmarks.

Constitutional Authority: Though the committee report did not cite constitutional authority for H.Res. 1737, the Constitution, in Article I, Section 5, Clause 2, grants Congress the authority to make its own rules of proceedings and punish its members for disorderly behavior.

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